

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. 09/724,349 Examiner Samson B. Lemma | Applicant(s) PRICE, WILLIAM F. Art Unit 2132 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed on December 12, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

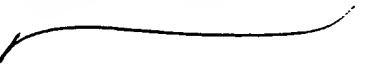
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



THOMAS R. PEESO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on December 12, 2005. **Claims 1-21 are pending and have been examined.** Applicant has submitted the terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patent rejection made previously. Accordingly, the examiner's double patent rejection made previously is overcome. Thus all claims are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with **William S. Galliani** Reg. No 33,885 on 08/04/2005.

The application has been amended as follows: In the claims

~~-4-~~15. (Currently Amended) A data processing apparatus that facilitates managing public keys through a server, comprising:
a storing mechanism that is configured to store a client public key in a database at the server, after confirming user identification. wherein the client public key is produced by a client computer in response to user supplied information. and wherein the client public key is delivered as an email message;

a lookup mechanism that is configured to allow other clients to lookup the client public key in the database; and

a key removal mechanism that is configured to,

send a verification request from the server to the client asking if the client public key remains valid, and to

remove the client public key from the database, if an affirmative response to the verification request is not received.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 1-21** are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. With respect to the independent claims 1, 8 and 15 the art on the record, namely the combination of **Liu and Newman** discloses all of the limitation of the recited claim 1,8 and 15 before the claims were amended. However claims 1, 8 and 15 are amended by the applicant and new limitation has been added and the art on the record namely the combination of **Liu and Newman** does not disclose or suggest the particular added limitation of the respective claims 1, 8 which is recited as follows " receiving a client public key from a client at the server, wherein the client public key is produced by a client computer in response to user supplied information and wherein the client public key is delivered as an email message; Storing the client public key in a database at the server, after confirming user identification

With respect to claim 15 a similar limitation recited above has been added.

None of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches or suggests a method/a computer-readable storage medium/a data processing apparatus with functional limitations recited above with the combination of the other limitation recited in respective claims such as,

Allowing other clients to lookup the client public key in the database;

Periodically sending a verification request from the server to the client asking if the client public key remains valid; and

If an affirmative response to the verification request is not received, removing the client public key from the database.

For the reasons provided above, the amended independent claim 1,8 and 15 are allowed.

5. **The dependent claims 2-7, which are dependent on the independent claim 1 and the dependent claims 9-14 which are dependent on the independent claim 8 and finally the dependent claims 16-21 which are dependent on independent claim 15** being further limiting to the independent claims, definite and enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samson B Lemma whose telephone number is 571-272-3806. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00 am --4: 30 pm).

Art Unit: 2132

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BARRON JR GILBERTO can be reached on. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SAMSON LEMMA

S.L.

12/21/2005

THOMAS R. PEESO
PRIMARY EXAMINER